

COMMENTS

The enclosed is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action mailed on January 30, 2003 and the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed June 16, 2003. The response has been amended, from an original response mailed May 30, 2003, to show that claims 1-49 were canceled in a previous office action response.

At the time the Examiner mailed the Office Action claims 50 – 99 were pending. By way of the present response the Applicant has: 1) canceled claims 62 – 71 and 84 – 91; and, 2) added new claims 100 – 160. Therefore claims 50 – 61, 72 – 83, 92 – 99 and 100 – 160 are currently pending. Moreover, the Examiner has indicated in the Office Action mailed on January 30, 2003 that claims 50 – 61, 72 – 83 and 92 – 99 are allowable. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of claims 50 – 61, 72 – 83 and 92 – 99; and, respectfully requests the allowance of new claims 100 – 160.

The Applicant has added new claims 100 – 160. With respect to claims 100 – 120, the Applicant respectfully submits that each of claims 100 – 120 are patentable over US Patent No. 6,118, 864 (hereinafter, "Chang").

With respect to new independent claim 100, new independent claim 100 recites (emphasis added):

100. (new) An apparatus, comprising:

a) means for providing a ring signal at a remote telephone interface as consequence of a connection that was established toward said remote telephone interface over a packet data network;

b) *timer means that measures a time period over which said ring signal is applied at said remote telephone interface;*

c) means for ceasing said ring signal, said ceasing in response to said timer expiring;

d) means for sending a message, in response to said timer expiring, over said packet data network to a system that initiated said connection, said system having initiated said connection in response to a ring signal observed at a telephone interface; and

e) means for providing an "on-hook" signal at said telephone interface as a consequence of said message having been received by said system.

The Applicant respectfully submits that new independent claim 100 is patentable over Chang at least because Chang does not disclose, teach or suggest telephone interface signaling manipulation in conjunction with the application of a timer as recited in the emphasized claim language.

With respect to new independent claim 108, new independent claim 108 recites (emphasis added):

108. (new) An apparatus, comprising:
a first system communicatively coupled to a second system through a packet network;
said first system comprising:
a) *a timer, said timer to measure a time period over which a ring signal is applied;*
b) a telephone interface where said ring signal is generated;
c) a first interface to said packet network, said first interface from where a message is sent from said first system to said second system if said timer expires;
said second system comprising:
a) a second interface to said packet network, said second interface where said message is received;
b) *a third interface that transitions to an on hook state in response to said message being received.*

The Applicant respectfully submits that new independent claim 108 is patentable over Chang at least because Chang does not disclose, teach or suggest interface state manipulation in conjunction with the application of a timer as recited in the emphasized claim language.

With respect to new independent claim 120, new independent claim 120 recites (emphasis added):

120. (new) A method, comprising:
a) detecting a ring signal at a telephony interface as a consequence of a call attempting to be established through said telephony interface to a remote location, said call destined for said remote location over a packet network that exists between said remote location and said telephony interface;

- b) *generating an off hook signal at said telephony interface to respond to said ring signal and generating a communication over said packet network to cause said remote location to recognize said attempting;*
- c) *receiving a message from said packet network that indicates said attempting should be terminated; and,*
- d) *causing said telephony interface, as a consequence of said receiving of said message, to replace said off said hook signal with a signal indicative of an on hook or idle state.*

The Applicant respectfully submits that new independent claim 120 is patentable over Chang at least because Chang does not disclose, teach or suggest telephony interface manipulation as recited in the emphasized claim language in conjunction with a call attempt that is ultimately deemed unsuccessful.

With respect to new independent claim 131, new independent claim 131 recites (emphasis added):

131. A computer readable medium containing executable instructions which when executed in a processing system, causes the system to perform a method, the method comprising:
- a) *causing an off hook signal to be generated at a telephony interface in response to a ring signal having been detected at said telephony interface, said ring signal for a call that is attempting to be established through said telephony interface and a packet network to a remote location, where, said packet network resides between said telephony interface and said remote location*
and
generating a communication over said packet network to cause said remote location to recognize said attempting; and,
 - b) *causing said telephony interface to replace said off said hook signal with a signal indicative of an on hook or idle state in response to a message having been received from said network that indicates said attempting should be terminated.*

The Applicant respectfully submits that new independent claim 131 is patentable over Chang at least because Chang does not disclose, teach or suggest telephony interface manipulation as recited in the emphasized claim language in conjunction with a call attempt that is ultimately deemed unsuccessful.

With respect to new independent claim 142, new independent claim 142

recites (emphasis added):

142. (new) An apparatus, comprising:

a) first means for receiving a ring signal as a consequence of a call attempting to be established through said first means to a remote location, said call destined for said remote location over a packet network that exists between said first means and said remote location;

b) *second means for generating an off hook signal at said first means to respond to said ring signal* and generating a communication over said packet network to cause said remote location to recognize said attempting; and,

c) third means for receiving a message from said packet network *that indicates said attempting should be terminated*,
wherein, said second means further comprises means for causing said telephony interface, as a consequence of said receiving of said message, *to replace said off said hook signal with a signal indicative of an on hook or idle state.*

The Applicant respectfully submits that new independent claim 142 is patentable over Chang at least because Chang does not disclose, teach or suggest signal manipulation as recited in the emphasized claim language in conjunction with a call attempt that is ultimately deemed unsuccessful.

With respect to new independent claim 151, new independent claim 151

recites (emphasis added):

151. (new) An apparatus, comprising:

a multiservice access concentrator comprising a voice over packet call control system that is communicatively coupled to a:

a) a telephony interface to receive a ring signal as a consequence of a call attempting to be established through said multiservice access concentrator to a remote location, said call destined for said remote location over a packet network that exists between said multiservice access concentrator and said remote location, *said telephony interface to also provide an off hook signal so that said multiservice access concentrator can respond to said ring signal*; and,

b) a packet network interface from where a communication is sent to said remote location through said packet network to cause said remote location to recognize said attempting, and from where a later received message is received *that indicates said attempting should be terminated* so as to cause said multiservice access concentrator *to initiate replacement of said off hook signal with a signal indicative of an on hook or idle state.*

The Applicant respectfully submits that new independent claim 151 is patentable over Chang at least because Chang does not disclose, teach or

suggest signal manipulation as recited in the emphasized claim language in conjunction with a call attempt that is ultimately deemed unsuccessful.

Because the Applicant believes each of the presently non allowed independent claims are allowable, the Applicant respectfully submits that all corresponding dependent claims are allowable.

Therefore the Applicant respectfully submits that new claims 100 through 160 are allowable and respectfully requests the allowance of same.

Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call Robert O'Rourke at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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